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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Heinrich Lang, et al.

Serial No.: 10/643,214

Filed: 08/18/2003

For: FILLABLE AND STIFFENED  
REARVIEW MIRROR ASSEMBLY

Examiner: Amari, Alessandro V

Group Art Unit: 2872

Docket No.: LMX-118-DIV

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**Transmittal Letter**

Please find the following correspondence items enclosed for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Response under 37 CFR 1.112 to the PTO Action of 6/29/2004; and
2. Return Receipt Postcard.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry S. Jaudon  
Registration No. 34,056  
McNair Law Firm, P.A.  
P.O. Box 10827  
Greenville, SC 29603-0827  
Telephone: (864) 232-4261  
Agent for the Applicant

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST CLASS MAIL with postage affixed thereto, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 6, 2004.

By:



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Dear Sir:

**Response under 37 CFR 1.112 to the PTO Action of 6/29/2004**

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 USC 121.

I. Claims 1-8 are said to be drawn to a method of manufacturing a carrier for a rearview mirror assembly properly classified in class 264, subclass 454.

II. Claims 9-16 are said to be drawn to a method of manufacturing a rearview mirror assembly properly classified in class 359, subclass 871.

The inventions are said to be distinct if the intermediate product as defined by the claims of Group I is useful to make other than the final product and is patentably distinct. The Examiner deems the intermediate product to be useful as a holder for any type reflective surface.

This requirement is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-8 are directed to a method of forming a carrier for a rearview mirror. Claims 9-16 are directed to the method of manufacturing a rearview mirror assembly including providing a carrier, i.e. the carrier defined in the claims of Group I.

To state that the carrier of Group I may be useful as a holder for any type of reflective surface is improper and unsupportable as the claims clearly call for a "carrier for a rearview mirror assembly" which limits the claimed carrier to such an assembly.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.143 the invention as defined by the claims of Group II, i.e. claims 9-16, are elected with traverse for prosecution.